EAS is being implemented in 1778 Blocks in 261 districts of the country (including 120 Blocks in 16 districts of Andhra Pradesh), where the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) is in operation.

(d) and (e) No proposal to extend EAS to more districts of Andhra Pradesh is under consideration, for the time being.

Development of Wasteland in Orissa

1532. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the wasteland in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise, and

(c) the steps taken for the development of wasteland in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAO RAM SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, The Department of Wasteland Development has commissioned National Wastelands Identification Project with the collaboration of the National Remote Sensing Agency. Under this project 237 districts in the country having more than 5 per cent of the geographical areas as wastelands have been mapped. However, precise information regarding the whole country is not yet available, but according to one estimate, out of the country's total landmass of 329 million hectares, the extent of wastelands in the country is 129.5 million hectares. Statewise details of non-forest and forest wastelands in the country are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Department of Wastelands Development has taken steps to launch various schemes/programmes for development of wastelands in the State of Orissa. The schemes undertaken during 1992-93 & 1993-94 for development of wastelands in non-forest areas in Orissa is given below:

Statement

Scheme	No. of Projects Sanctioned (No.)	Funds approved (Rs. lakhs)	Funds Released (Rs. lakhs)
1. Integrated Wastelands Dev. Project :			
1992-93	2	269.00	91.00
1993-94	4	1145.00	183.00
2. Technology Dev. Extension & Training :			
1992-93	1	2.06	1.69
1993-94	1	3.52	0.59
3. Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Agency :			
1992-93	1	1.50	1.50
1993-94	..	..	..
TOTAL :	9	1421.08	277.78

Statement

Estimate of Wastelands in the Country

(million hectares)

State/UTs	Non-forest Degraded Area	Forest Degraded	Total
Andhra Pradesh	7.682	3.734	11.416
Assam	0.935	0.795	1.730
Bihar	3.895	1.562	5.458
Gujarat	7.153	0.683	7.836
Haryana	2.404	0.074	2.478
Himachal Pradesh	1.424	0.534	1.958
Jammu & Kashmir	0.531	1.034	1.565
Karnataka	7.122	2.043	9.165
Kerala	1.053	0.226	1.279
Madhya Pradesh	12.947	7.195	20.142
Maharashtra	11.559	2.841	14.401
Manipur	0.014	1.424	1.438
Meghalaya	0.815	1.103	1.918
Nagaland	0.503	0.878	1.386
Orissa	3.157	3.227	6.384
Punjab	1.151	0.079	1.230
Rajasthan	18.001	1.933	19.934
Sikkim	0.131	0.150	0.281
Tamil Nadu	3.392	1.009	4.401
Tripura	0.108	0.865	0.973
Uttar Pradesh	6.635	1.426	8.061
West Bengal	2.177	0.359	2.536
UTs	0.889	2.715	3.604
TOTAL :	93.685	35.889	129.574

SOURCE : Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development, New Delhi (1984).